

Free Trade Independent Democrat.

TERMS, \$3,

"FREE TRADE; LOW DUTIES; NO DEBT; SEPARATION FROM BANKS; ECONOMY; REFRESHMENT; AND STRICT ADHERENCE TO THE CONSTITUTION."—Calhoun.

In Advance.

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Lines on the Death of F. S. KEY.

Veil, gallant Flag, thy glorious Stars,
Thy hands of radiant beauty fold,
For he whose genius crown'd thy fame,
Shall never more thy face behold!

He saw thee gleaming through the storm
Of conflict, waving o'er his cloud,
And hail'd thee victor of the fight—
Now bend thee, when his head is bow'd!

Star-spangled banner! when the dawn
Of doubt and danger caught his eye,
To Heaven he raised a trembling glance,
And sought thy presence to descry.

And when through battle's lurid mist,
Thy stars and stripes his vision blest,
Immortal tones his lyre awoke,
Re-echoed from each patriot breast.

Those tones have kindled countless hearts,
Those notes are swelled by lips untold,
Their echo ne'er shall die—but ah!
The lips that breath'd them first, are cold!

Then, banner of the brave, for once
From his proud perch, thine eagle stoop,
And o'er the patriot poet's grave
Thy gorgeous folds with reverence droop.

J. L. M.

From the Tropic. Sketches of the Mississippi Bar. CHANCERY COURT.

SERGEANT S. PRENTISS.

Mark that man of low but robust stature, whose head is a model of classic beauty, and whose eye, mingling the softness of the gazelle, with the fire of the basilisk's,

"Wins where it wanders, dazzles where it dwells."

He is talking with a group of lawyers—his face is radiant with good humor, under which you may nevertheless discern a spirit of sarcasm, lurking "like an asp beneath flowers." You are at no loss for his name. He enjoys to the full, wherever he goes, the honor of which Henry IV. was ambitious, of hearing men ask each other—"Where—which is Bolingbroke?" Although he has not acquired it by following the example of that monarch, who says of himself—

"By being seldom seen, I could not stir
But like a comet I was wonder'd at—
Thus did I keep my person fresh and new—"

But rather like Prince Hal,
"He doth permit the base contagious clouds,

To smother up his beauty from the world,
That when he please again to be himself,
Being wanted, he may more be wonder'd at"

Wherever he moves he is surrounded by a group, listening to those "jest and jibes and flashes of merriment, which are wont to set the table in a roar." But those who judge his character by this criterion are egregiously in error. He is a contradiction of that too common opinion, that wit and then a serious stent with logical and profound thought. When engaged in the argument of a case, circulated to arouse his genius into action, they will discover that his imagination is but the rainbow of his intellect, adorning that to which it is indebted for its hues. In the course of such an argument, these scintillations of fancy emanate from a mind fervid with its own action, like the sparks that fly from the heated iron—denoting the intensity of its glow, without impairing its solidity. His mind exhibits the lights and shades of a panorama—not only the sublimity of the mountain crag, nor the terror of the flaming cataract—not only the luxuriance of the valley, nor the gentleness of the rivulet that winds across its bosom—it is not any one, but all of these,

whose images blend themselves into the likeness of his mind, and constitute him one of the most powerful and captivating orators of the age. He possesses both the attributes by which the sun and wind once contended for mastery—what he cannot accomplish by strength, he carries by persuasion—and where both these fail, his "wit can cut its bright way through."

One of the most extraordinary instances of the power of his eloquence was his speech at Harrodsburg, in defence of Mordough and others. On that occasion, Reading, the fomentor of the affray, appeared as prosecutor. Against him as the real murderer, the orator directed his most enveloped shafts. The first effect produced on his victim was an expression of insolent defiance—the next, of resentment—but as the storm of sarcasm and denunciation thickened in violence and increased in fury, hurrying like hail around his devoted head—as his unrelenting executioner led him to the brink of eternity and pointed out the torments prepared for his false, perjured soul—the victim trembled with emotion, and finally, unable to control his agony of shame and humiliation, buried his face in his hands and burst into convulsive sobs. That was a triumph of genius not surpassed by the most splendid efforts of Cicero. His speech on that occasion infinitely surpassed in eloquence the published copy of it—the latter having been written out by him from memory, at the request of the publisher, long after it was delivered.

His success before juries is very great, and cannot be more strikingly exemplified than by the following anecdote. He was engaged in a cause pending in a Circuit Court East of Pearl river, where juries are usually composed of men who shape their verdicts in their own language, leaving to the court the task of moulding them into a legal form. On this occasion the jury were so captivated with P.'s eloquence and humor that they confounded him with the defendant, whom he represented, and brought in their verdict in these words—"We, the jury, find for lawyer Prentiss, and pay him the costs"—which of course unsettled the gravity of the court, bar and audience, as it has done that of all who have heard it related since.

JOSEPH HOLT.

I have omitted this far, a notice of one of the most distinguished orators and jurists that adorn the Bar, because he has been absent from the State, and has just taken his seat in the court room. Judging from external appearances alone, he is a man whom Caesar would have feared, because he has

"A lean and hungry look,
And thinks too much."

"He hears no music—
Seldom he smiles."

"He reads much—
He is a great observer, and he looks
Quite through the deeds of men."

The latter line is certainly applicable to him, though in a different sense from that which Caesar used it—as there are few deeds in this part of the State, which he has not been called on "to look through," for the purpose of construing them or testing their validity. He is solitary and apart from his brethren, wrapped in abstraction, with a countenance of deep and hectic melancholy, denoting intensity of thought warring against infirmity of body. When he speaks, his words are few and appropriate—his manner passionate, and his voice though musical as a reed, and very distinct and emphatic, is feeble and low, unless the occasion is such as to call for exertion. Then his hearers are astonished and delighted by a vehement and overwhelming eloquence, which combines with the most precise logic, the most copious and rhetorical diction, and the most impassioned voice and gesture. His mind is chastened by the most laborious study, he being the only man of the present day, who has accomplished, in its complete sense, (as far as his age permits,) the "vigilant annorum lucubrations," prescribed by my Lord Coke. In speaking, his mind pursues undeviatingly a line of demonstrative argument, while his fancy imparts a grace and fascination rarely exceeded, of every sentence. It is supposed that he is mercenary—but the truth is, he values money more as a means of purchasing immunity, from the carking wants which trammel and harass an ambitious mind, than for his own sake. He follows strictly the instruction of "Auld Robin Burns."

"To gather gear by every wile
That's justified by honor—
Not for to hide it in a hedge,
Nor for a train attendant,
But for the glorious privilege
Of being independent."

But so cold and distant is he in his intercourse even with his friends, that few give him credit for any of the social virtues, and it is generally believed that

"Man delights not in him, nor woman either."

But there are some (and among them the writer) who appreciate him more justly and kindly—who know that beneath the ice which encrusts the outward man,

"A living stream lies quiet below,
That flows, and ne'er can cease to flow,"

and which in his genial hours of relaxation from toil, refreshes and enlivens his social and domestic relations with sparkling vivacity of thought and feeling.

Few who have seen Joseph Holt, will fail to recognize the foregoing picture. He is a native of Kentucky. In 1831, he settled at Louisville, and was appointed Attorney for the Commonwealth in that district, by his faithful and zealous discharge of his duties, became a terror and a scourge to evil-doers. In 1832, he was a delegate to the Baltimore Convention, and was mainly instrumental by an eloquent panegyric of R. M. Johnson, delivered before that body, in securing his nomination for the Vice Presidency. This truly eloquent address drew from Mrs. Sigourney an ode, in which she pays a just and flattering tribute to the genius of Kentucky's youthful orator—in addition to which, she presented to him a copy of her work, as a memorial of her special admiration and regard.

In 1835, he removed to Port Gibson, in this State, from which village he soon afterwards removed to the city of Vicksburg, which presented a wider theatre for the exercise of his professional skill; there his first efforts justified his high reputation.

The writer well remembers—who that heard it, can ever forget—his speech at the trial of old Redding H. Herring, who was prosecuted for the murder of his son. At the request of the District Attorney, (who was indisposed,) Holt asked him—He had but few hours for preparation.—The prisoner's counsel relied strong on his denial of the act when charged, (there having been no witnesses.) This point the prosecutor seized and handled with amazing dexterity. His concluding words were—

"You have been told, gentlemen, that Herring indignantly denied the act of having murdered his son. Aye! if the space of his murdered son were now to rise from the grave, and wrapped in his body were seen, confront the prisoner, and charge him with this horrid, damning crime, he would still deny it, and with perjured tongue cry out—

"Shake not your gory locks at me,
Thou canst not say I did it!"

The effect of this address was electric. The prisoner turned in his seat, a gasp of awe and horror, as if he had seen a specter conjured up to view, and a ghastly smile of the most guilty repudiation—while the audience broke forth into acclamations, which the authority of the court could not suppress.

With a reputation which attracted the most important business of the courts, and an unenvied systematic attention to the minutest details, which enabled him to keep pace with every demand made on his time, he has now retired from the practice in Mississippi, with an unblemished fortune of \$50,000, but with a conscientious broken, that he is now on his way to Cuba, to try the influence of a more salubrious climate.

It is to be regretted that his health will not permit him to labor hereafter, for the benefit of the Bar, by reducing the rich stores of his learning and experience within the compass of a written commentary, which would be a valuable legacy to the profession, and establish his high reputation on a permanent basis.

Mr. H. is a Democrat, but not of the modern school. He looks with a horror on that portion of his party who are known as Anti-Bondmen, and scorns all fellowship with them.

JOHN A. QUITMAN.

First in order I will place General (or Judge) Quitman of Natchez—not because he is remarkable for the brilliant qualities that attract admiration—but because in addition to the dignity, probity, honor, good sense and firmness which have always distinguished him, he has, at various times, occupied stations, judicial, civil and military, all which he has filled in such a manner as to command general approbation. He was, during several years prior to the date of the new Constitution, Chancellor of the State, and while on the bench, by great industry, strict impartiality, unblemished morality, and the patient exercise of a sound intellect, guided by that moral perception which enables many persons to not intuitively right in relation to all questions affecting the conscience of men—he was universally acknowledged to be fully equal to the discharge of the sacred and arduous duties of that important trust. He was, in 1832, a member of the Convention which framed the new Constitution—and while responsible for none of its vices, he is entitled to the merit of having powerfully aided in engrafting on that instrument all the good features which it contains, as well as softening down its general deformity. He then warmly advocated

total interference of the Legislative power, to borrow money on the faith of the State, and was the author of the existing clause restraining that power. A clause which, if construed properly, would have effected every necessary purpose, but for a circumstance, which no man possessing any confidence in the virtue of the people could ever have anticipated—namely, that a sufficient number of men could be found, corrupt enough to convert that which was intended only as a shield against haste and improvident legislation, into an instrument of fraud and injustice.

It is worthy of observation that Judge Q., who penned this clause of the Constitution, and whose construction of it, being contemporary with the clause itself, is entitled to great respect, has totally repudiated the authors and advocates of the shameful doctrine of repudiation, and on all proper occasions, urged Democratic principles, of which he is a member, to preserve the faith of the State unimpaired and its honor inviolate, by a redemption of the State bonds.

In 1836, Gen. Q. became "enthusiast" with the spirit then so prevalent in the United States in favor of Texas—

"For he had heard of battles, and he long'd
To follow to the field some warlike chief."

Yielding to an impulse, which subsequent experience has perhaps proved to be gratuitous, he levied and equipped, at his own expense, a band of gallant youths, who were ambitious of adding to their "daring high" the fame of "dusty deeds." At their head he proceeded as far as San Antonio, when the battle of San Jacinto put an end to war and robbed him and his heroic band of "Fenimore" of the opportunity of blending their "Sagin Sag" with the "notes of Victory," which on that memorable day proclaimed the freedom and independence of Texas.

Returning from Texas, he resumed his agricultural labors, and for several years lived in retirement, enjoying the charms of domestic life and pleasures of social intercourse, for which an ample fortune and a liberal heart abundantly fitted him.—In 1838, having by misguided confidence become involved in debt, as security for many acquiescences whose only claim on him was their need of assistance, he determined to convert the remains of his large estate into "banking fund" for the payment of these obligations, and in the meantime to resume the practice of his former profession, which he is now pursuing with a degree of zeal and success, not surpassed by the most ardent and ambitious aspirant, and at the same time with a degree of modesty and humility, which all the members of the bar might emulate with advantage.

ROLLING CORN LAND.

I am satisfied, by two or three years' trial, that light land rolled when plowed with a drought much better than if it were worked. This present year I had an excellent test. All my corn was rolled as soon as planted. A very severe drought existed after the corn came up and got to be a foot or a foot and a half high. I ran the plough, bar and side to the corn, on each side of the corn; and immediately levelled the interstices with the cultivator; so that whatever was ploughed, was immediately afterwards levelled with the cultivator.—The ground thus managed, when turned up, was moist and fine, in a day or two a sign of moisture was to be seen; it was a complete dry bed of pulverized earth, while that part of the field had not been so rolled, (say one third of the field) upon moving a scum of crust of 1-2 or 3-4 of an inch thick, exhibited a clammy moisture. To complete the experiment, I left this third untouched the balance of the season.

BREEDING AND RAISING SWINE.

A correspondent of the Southern Planter, makes the following judicious remarks: As the time seems at length to have arrived, when the attention of our honest farmers is awakened, and inquiry is all at as to the best method of breeding and raising swine, I propose you will not deny me a place in one of your columns for the fit knowledge I may possess, gleaned from agricultural papers and my own observation and experience. For the better treatment of the subject, I will divide my remarks into five different parts.

1. The choice of a breed. For my own part, I prefer the Berkshire; they certainly cannot be surpassed for fineness of disposition and easiness of keep, and no other marks their progeny as distinctly as they do. Next to them, Moccas breed is the best.

2. Having chosen your breed, select your breeders. I will give you now a description of what I consider a perfect hog: Small head, small ears, thin neck, broad shoulders, long and round in the body, deep in the carcass, short legs, and hams rather square and round.

3. To preserve them in good health and appetite, mix with their food a little powdered charcoal, once or twice a week, or throw it to them in lumps.

4. The management and weaning of

pigs. For the purpose of feeding little pigs, I have my pens so constructed as to permit them to go into their own apartment at pleasure, where food is always kept for them; they thus become accustomed to eating and do not mind weaning at all.

5. Cures for diseases to which swine are subject. Measles. The existence of this disease can only be known by the animals not thriving like the rest. Give him a clean, dry bed, and mix sulphur or a little antimony with his food. Catarrh in pigs. Castor oil is very good, but woad ashes is almost certain cure. Blind staggers are caused by costiveness; give a dose of Castor oil. Mange or quinsy. Boil pork fat with pot liquor, and season with meal, vegetables, &c. and let the hog eat heartily; give him this once or twice a week until he is well.—As to fattening, but little need be said; the whole matter consists in feeding but little at a time, often, and with regularity.

I hope if you think these remarks will be of service to any of your readers, you will publish them.

NEW MODE OF GRAFTING.

A Southerner says, in one of our exchange papers, the following is the best plan for grafting, viz: When the stocks are from one to three years old, the branches are trimmed off, holes are pierced through the tree at every six or eight inches distance by a strong, sharp pointed knife, the scions are then to be inserted in the holes, and the whole tree bent down and covered three or four inches in the earth, leaving out two or three buds of the scions. After the grafts have stuck, and grown one season, the original tree may be taken up, and eight or ten good apple trees may be sowed out and placed at proper distances for more mature growth. We should be pleased to hear if any of our readers have tried this plan.

TOMATOES FOR COWS.

It is not generally known (says the L. C. Advocate) that this vegetable is a superior article of food for milk cows.—We have tried it two summers, and it is decidedly superior to any other vegetable we have yet tried. They add greatly to the quality as well as to the richness of the milk, and give a rich golden color to the cream and butter, which is at least pleasant to the eye, even if the flavor is not so improved. We do not know, however, that they impart any richer flavor to the butter.

We have known a cow to refuse them when first offered, but soon become very fond of them; others, we believe a large majority eat them greedily from the first. Thus far we have fed them only in the raw state; but if boiled with corn meal, say half and half, or two thirds tomatoes, they will doubtless be far better.

To one who has a dairy farm, the cultivation of an acre or two in tomatoes would be repaid by greater profit than any vegetable we know. From one acre not less than eight bushels may be gathered daily from July until frost. There is some trouble in picking them, but then nearly every farmer has children; his little boys—ay, and his big ones, too—would not be the worse for a little work. We should be glad to see the experiment on a larger scale than ours, and to learn the results.—S. C. Tem. Adv.

From the Mississippi Journal.

FRIGHTFUL SNAKE STORY.

The following incident was related to us the other day, by one whose veracity is unquestioned, and one who was an eye witness of the fact. It is more appalling than any we recollect to have ever read in the history of these reptiles.

Some time last summer, the inhabitants of Manchester Mississippi, gave a barbecue which was attended by most of the fashion and beauty of the town and surrounding country. It happened that among the guests there was a young lady, Miss M., recently from one of the Eastern cities, who was on a visit to one of her relations in the neighborhood of the town. Miss M. was a gay and extremely fashionable young lady, and whilst possessed an uncommon share of spirit and courage, except in the matter of snakes—and of the one she had so great a dread that she scarcely dared to walk any where except in the most frequented places, for fear of encountering them. Every effort was used, but without avail, to rid her of her childish fears. They haunted her continually, until at last it became the settled conviction of her mind that she was destined to fall a victim to the fangs of a rattlesnake. The sequel will show how soon her terrible presentiment was fulfilled.

Towards the close of the day, while scores of the fairer sex were keeping time in the dance to the music, and the whole company were in the full tide of enjoyment, a scream was heard from Miss M., followed by the most agonizing cries for help. The crowd gathered around her instantly, and beheld her standing, the perfect image of despair, with her hands

grasping a portion of her dress with the tenacity of a vice. It was some time before she could be rendered sufficiently calm to tell the cause of her alarm, and then they gathered from her broken exclamations that she was grasping the head of a snake among the folds of her dress, and dreaded to let go her hold for fear of receiving the fatal blow! This intelligence caused many to shrink from her, but most of the ladies, to their honor, be it told, remained with her, determined not to leave her in her direful extremity. They besought her not to relax her hold, as her safety depended upon it, until some one could be found who had the courage to seize and remove the terrible animal.—There were none of the ladies, however, who had the courage to perform the act, and the condition of Miss M. was becoming more and more critical every moment. It was evident that her strength was failing her fast, and that she could not maintain her hold many minutes longer.

A hasty consultation among the calmest of the ladies was held, when it was determined that Dr. Tisan, who was present, should be called to their assistance. He was quickly on the spot, and being a man of uncommon courage, he was not many moments within the circle of the weeping and half-fainting females, until he had caught the tail of the snake, and wound it firmly around his hand to make sure of his hold. He then told Miss M. that she must let go at the moment he jerked it away, and to make the act as instantaneous as possible, he told her that she would pronounce the words one, two, three, and that at the moment he pronounced the last word, she must let go her hold, and he doubted not that he could withdraw the snake before it could have time to strike. All stood in breathless horror, awaiting the act of life or death, and at the moment the word three was pronounced, the Doctor jerked out the largest and most diabolical looking *bustle* that was ever seen in Mississippi.

The whole affair was at once explained. The fastening of the machine had become loose during the dancing, and it had shifted its position in such a way that it dangled about the lady's limbs, and induced the belief that it was a snake with an enormous head.

The Doctor fell right down in his tracks, and fainted—he did.

PROTECTION.

A cotton Planter carries to New Orleans a thousand dollars worth of cotton, for which he desires coarse cotton goods, (on which there is a duty of 100 per cent. *ad valorem*, as is the case under the present tariff,) to the amount of a thousand dollars. The importing merchant will tell him, "I want your cotton, and can let you have the quantity of goods you desire, (one thousand dollars worth) the duty is not paid on them, however; therefore, if you will pay the duty on them, which is a thousand dollars, I will give you an order for them." The Cotton Planter would answer, "this is all the cotton I possess, I can therefore purchase only five hundred dollars worth of your cotton goods." In this instance it is obvious that the price or value of cotton is exactly reduced one half to its producer? That is, his cotton is worth only five hundred dollars under the free trade system. But the duties on all goods do not amount to 100 per cent. If it were 50 per cent, he would only lose two hundred and fifty dollars; at 25 per cent, one hundred and twenty-five. These calculations we give as our reasons why a protective tariff diminishes the price of cotton. We regard \$1000 worth of goods, the same thing in value as \$1000 in cash. The average duty of the present tariff is estimated at about 40 per cent, and therefore a duty of \$400 would be levied upon the farmer or the merchant, who imported \$1000 worth of goods.

The same is true in regard to any article of barter: take for instance a thousand bushels of wheat. It is sent to market in exchange for goods, which by the tariff are subject to one hundred per cent. duty, and the result will be the same as if he had sent but five hundred, provided there were no duty on the articles received in exchange. Nor does it alter the case if cash be received for the wheat and exchanged for the protected articles. The result is the same, hundred per cent. comes out of the purchasers in succession, and the last purchaser and consumer pays the exchanges. No wonder that in all the recent elections, the farmers of the Union repudiate "The Farmer of Ashland" and his vicious schemes of protection!—N. Y. Plebian.

Notes of the Third Municipality.—The council of the Third Municipality at its session of Monday last, determined to issue bonds payable in one, two and three years, in exchange for their bills, in sum not less than \$100. They will allow an interest of five per cent per annum, for the second and third year. By this means they hope to fund a large quantity of their notes and create a better feeling of confidence in the holders.—New Orleans Republican.